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I hereby certify that on the date specified below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as firstfolds omail in convenuelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

December 31, 2001

Date

Rena Iov

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Present Application

Applicants

Chee Peng Neo, Cher Khng Victor Tan, Kian Seng Ho and Hock

Chuan Tan

Application No.

09/944,247

Confirmation No.: 180

1800

Filed

: August 30, 2001

METHOD

For

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AND

APPARATUS

FOR

DETECTING

TOPOGRAPHICAL

FEATURES OF

MICROELECTRONIC

SUBSTRATES

Docket No.

108298548US

Date

December 31, 2001

Foreign Application

Application No.

200104881-8

August 13, 2001

Country

Singapore

Filed

- 10-1

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Commissioner:

Please amend the application as follows and consider the application in light of the following remarks.